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Guests honored at the Playa Linda Resort



Rona and Steven Schmidt and Jerry and Joyce DeMarco were recently honored as Goodwill Ambassadors due to their 20th consecutive visit to Aruba. Ms. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority conducted the ceremony held at the Playa Linda Resort. According to the couple's, they love the island and the nice people. On group picture you can admire, all honorees, ATA's rep Marouska Heyliger and Yvette Tromp of the Playa Linda.

Dozens dead on Ukraine's deadliest day

KIEV (AFP) - More than 60 protesters were killed on Thursday by live gunfire in the deadliest day of violence in Ukraine since the beginning of protests.

The deaths -- which brought to nearly 100 the number of people who have been killed since Tuesday -- came as EU foreign ministers in Brussels imposed sanctions on Ukrainian ministers and security officials with "blood on their hands".

Ukraine's embattled President Viktor Yanukovych appeared ready to concede to one of the protestors' main demands after the latest wave of violence by suggesting to visiting EU dignitaries that he may be ready to hold early elections.

Emphasising the sense of crisis was a rare joint call for a "political solution" by the US and Russian leaders. Chancellor Angela Merkel spoke to Barack Obama and Vladimir Putin - who have bickered openly over a crisis that has pitted the ex-Soviet country's future between

Russia and the West -- by telephone and all three called for a halt to the bloodshed.

Ukraine's three-month street demonstration has become an orgy of bloodshed since Tuesday night.

Opposition medics said more than 60 protesters had been shot dead by police on Thursday alone. Kiev authorities for their part put the total toll from three days of violence at 75.

Bullet-riddled bodies were scattered on Thursday amid smouldering debris after masked protesters hurling Molotov cocktails forced gun-toting police from the capital's Independence Square -- the epicentre of the increasingly bloody revolt against Yanukovych's pro-Russian rule.

Both sides accused each other of using snipers in a major escalation of to a standoff that was sparked by Yanukovych's rejection in November of an EU pact in favour of closer ties with Moscow.

Continued on pg 6



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Students urge peaceful Venezuela march after violent night



Carabobo city of Venezuela in flames

CARACAS (AFP) - Student protest leaders in Venezuela called a march with white flowers for peace Thursday after another night of violent disturbances wracking the capital Caracas and other cities.

President Nicolas Maduro angrily rejected US and other calls for dialogue as the protests, which have left four people dead, entered their third week.

Demonstrators -- students and opposition parties -- are angry over rampant street crime, runaway inflation, corruption and bleak job prospects in the country with the world's largest proven oil reserves.

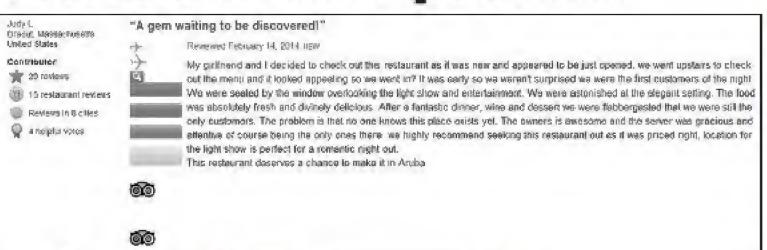
Continued on pg 6







"O" Restaurant a big hit with reviewers on Tripadvisor





PALM BEACH -- It cannot be denied, one of the most reliable sources for new eateries and place to go is "word of mouth." In today's communication age, the Internet has taken it to an entirely new level, with many relying on the input from commentators on Tripadvisor, one of the longest established and most respected travel review sites on the web.

In just a few short months, since opening their doors in mid-December, "O" Restaurant, located on the second level of the Paseo Herencia Shopping Mall, has shot to the top third of the 118 restaurants in Palm Beach. All those who have taken the time to comment have given it an "excellent" rating across the board, not only over all, but for food, service, value and atmosphere.

George Winter claims he was "blown away by the lo-

cation," crediting "O" with the "best meal and service." Daniel K from Boston describes dinner there as an "unforgettable experience," while Judy L. calls it "a gem waiting to be discovered."

Other qualities of "O" that particularly impressed reviewers was the value for their dollar and the exceptionally friendly staff and management. The restaurant is a dream come true for coowner Edjean Semeleer, on of Aruba'a great baritones and balladeers. He is on hand every night to greet guests and often serenade them, particularly on birthday and anniversaries, for a night to remember.

"O" Restaurant came to international attention in January when Forbes contributing writer John Giuffo, author of the column "Small World, Big Mouth" spent his New Year's on Aruba. His

lukewarm impression of the island was completely turned around by the wonderful New Year's Eve celebration he attended at "O," which he describes and "Old School Romance." He left the inland very impressed by the food and atmosphere of the eatery.

and atmosphere of the eatery.

If you haven't tried "O"
yet, don't miss it, for some
authentic Aruban hospitality,
and, according to reviewers,
excellent food, service and
value.

Santa Rosa joins III Green Education Symposium

ORANJESTAD -- This year again the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishery (Santa Rosa) has been invited by the National Library to join the III rd Green Education Symposium Aruba 2014 organized by the Aruba National Library. This year's theme is "Sustainable Food Supply/" "Source of Sustainable Alimentation."

For the third consecutive year the National Library is organizing this Symposium with the goal of educating school children about the importance of their role in our environment and how students can ensure that the world be sustainable for future generations.

During the first and the second Green Education Symposiums, students of secondary schools and of advanced education had the opportunity to listen to different local and international

speakers on the importance and benefits of living in a positive and sustainable environment.

This year the National Library is organizing the III rd Green Education Symposium in partnership with Santa Rosa and the Innovative Bureau. This year promises to be much bigger than the previous years with speakers from the US, Holland and Aruba.

The dates for this year's symposium are April 7th to the 11th, and will be held in the Cas di Cultura.

There will be workshops during the afternoon hours for students and the general public. The invited speakers will be addressing these workshops.

Santa Rosa is very pleased to be part of this symposium where innovative ideas will be presented to our students.

Shon Shoco is back on the road!





ORANJESTAD -- The library bus of the National Library dubbed "Shon Shoco" is back on the road! In February some repairs were made on certain technical difficulties on the bus to make it operational again. Unfortunately, the other bus, called "Compa Nanzi" is not ready yet.

Shon School visits schools according to a set itinerary. Mondays and Tuesdays Shon Shool visits Prinses Amalia and Comm.

Pieter Boer schools. Thursday and Fridays is the turn of Caxcique Macuarima and Colegio Santa Famia (Kukwisa). Employees have prepared everything for the bus to be able to make its rounds with all books neatly in place.

When the bus visits a school it park on the school's playground and students get on board to choose the books they want to read, under the supervision of the bus personnel and a school teacher. Often some there is storytelling to the children looking for books to read. The books collection comprises story books and educational books. Children of the first to fourth grade can borrow 1 bookevery two weeks. Those in the fifth and sixth grades can borrow two books every two weeks. The library bus is a great service for those children who cannot get to the public library easily.



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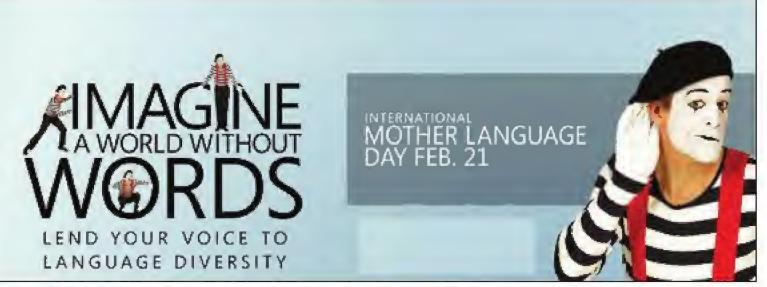






J.E. (RAUSQUIN BLVD. 248 Aruba, Dutch Caribbean

Today is: International Mother Language Day



ORANJESTAD -- International Mother Language Day is an observance held appually on February 21st. The intention if to promote worldwide awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism. It was first announced by UNESCO on November 17,1999. Its observance was also formally recognized by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution establishing 2008 as the International Year of Languages.

International Mother Language Day (Tongue) has been observed annually since the year 2000. The date chosen commemorates the day in 1952 when students demonstrated for recognition of their native anguage, Bengali, as one of the two national languages of what was then Pakistan. Many were shot and killed by police in Dhaka (near High Court), which is the capital of present day Bangladesh.

During the annual observance, the UN's Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and UN agencies participate in events that promote linguistic

and cultural diversity. They also encourage people to maintain their knowledge of their mother tongue while learning and using more than one language. Governments and non-governmental organizations may use the day to announce policies to encourage language learning and

Aruba began observing the day in 2003 with a lecture by language educator Ramon Todd Dandare. The event was organized by UNESCO Aruba. During the lecture, Mr. Dandare talked about the origins and evolution of the language Papiamento in a colonial constellation, its growth and how it evolved into a written language, the turmoil and obstacles the language has gone through and the continuing plight in attaining international recognition as a language, especially among those who speak Papiamento, the education system and the community in general.

Another goal in observing this day is to promote the diversity in language and Multilanguage teaching, and to emphasize a profound awareness of the importance of education in your mother tongue Some studies have indicated that educational programs that use it enhance a child's language learning capacity and general academic achievements in general. It is also beneficial for the child's self esteem and cultural pride. Educational programs based on the mother tongue or multilingual language gives educators' the opportunity to teach in the language they know best

In August 2009, the Aruba Education Department started a multi language program at 2 pilot pre-schools, Trupial and Colegio Conrado Coronel. In August 2012, the multi language program was introduced in the first grade classes of 2 pilot schools: Colegio San Hose and Colegeio Conrado Coronel. The program was then gradually introduced to the other grades, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th and in the year 2017-2018 it was introduced in the 6th

In celebration of International Day of the Mother Tongue, the Aruba National Library has organized an in-

formative lecture for tonight titled "Historia di Lista di Palabra y Diccionario na Papiamento: di 1829 pa 2014" History of List of Words and Papiamento Dictionary from 1829 to 2014". The guest speaker is Ramon Dandare, who will elaborate on the different word lists and dictionary made and/or published in the Papiamento language. Mr. Dandare will, among others, assemble a list of words from the beginning of the 19th century and show the audience the different Papramento dictionaries which were published in the 19th, 20th and 21st century.

In addition Samantha Trinidad and Selvia Lumenier will recite poetry and Trio Los Arubeños will perform Papiamento music. The new board of directors of Fundacion Lanta Papiamento will be introduced to the public.

Tonight's event will be at the main branch of the Aruba National Library on George Madurostraat commencing at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, visit the website Enseñansa Aruba | www.ea.aw and look for Proyecto Scol Multilingual | PSML (in the alphabet menu under the letter P).

Interested readers can also visit the Face Book page facebook.com/educationaruba



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Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino proud to announce: USA Today Travel Experience Caribbean nominates BLUE Bar as one of the 'Sexiest Bar' in the Caribbean



ORANJESTAD —February — It was recently that Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino BLUE Bar received a nomination for the sexiest bar in the Caribbean by USA Travel Experience Caribbean. The international acknowledgement couldn't have come in a better time seeing that BLUE Bar has just finished remodeling.

USA Today Travel Experience Caribbean known for its extended list of travel recommendations as well as sharing of travel experiences recognized BLUE Bar as one of the sexiest bar in the Caribbean together with bars in; Jamaica, Barbados, Anguilla, St. Tomas, Nevis and Sint Maarten. BLUE Bar located in the lobby of the Renaissance Marina Hotel is now bigger, very modern and features new furniture. As the center of the social scene BLUE Bar offers daily Happy Hours from 4:30pm till 6:00pm were all customers foreign and locals can enjoy its delicious signature drink Blue Sky Martini or others such as the; Appletini, Chocotini, Violet Martini,

Mojito, classic cocktails with

a special twist and the local



treasures Balashi and Chill.

As a perfect lunch or dinner option, BLUE Bar has Sushi, Burgers, Tapas and many more. When the sun sets the fun continues with great music on the Pool Deck with performances by great Dj's from Thursday till Sunday. Renaissance Aruba is also known for its interactive experiences through RLife Live events which gives guests and visitors the opportunity to enjoy musical, culinary and artistic events at BLUE Bar and Marina pool deck.

Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino honors this nomination; it's the hard work and the drive of dedicated employees that make nominations like these possi-

ble. For more information visit the Renaissance Aruba Resort website: www.renaissancearuba.com



Cymbi is on the look-out for friends and family members

We would like to introduce you to Cymbi, one of the donkeys that has found a home at the Aruban Donkey Sanctuary. A fortnight after our volunteers had captured her mother, Cymbi was caught

During those two weeks Cymbi stayed in the vicinity of the family that had lured her mother into their garden. After a trailer had taken this donkey to the sanctuary, the reumon with her mother Orchid took place, a joyful occasion. At this moment Cymbi is probably expecting a baby; time will tell. It was quite stunning to see Orchid welcoming Cymbi as Orchid had delivered a son two days after she came to the sanctuary. Normally a first-born is rejected by the mother at such a time. But in this case it was the opposite: mother Orchid started flourishing after the reunion with her mom.

This beautiful donkey has been provided with a chip, just like all the other donkeys. On the chip is information about the donkey and its medical history. The donkeys at the sanctuary have a lot of friends with whom they can play all day long. And they



love living there: they are well-cared for, they are fed and watered and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers for the sanctuary.

The volunteers are trying to cover the various costs with all kinds of activities and the sale of great donkey memorabilia in the shop. Fortunately, there are also visitors who wish to adopt a donkey, who buy something at the donkey shop or who make a donation. Thus they

help support us. Everyone is welcome to visit the sanctuary, which has opening hours from 9 am until 4 pm and in the weekend from 10 am until 3. Entry is free of charge and one can enjoy a soft drink, a cup of coffee or a refreshing ice cream.

The volunteers of the sanctuary are hoping that somebody will adopt this friendly, lovely donkey. Of course the donkey will keep on living at the sanctuary, you only need to pay AWG. 30,-- per month for the donkey's keep. With this amount you help support the sanctuary as well as your

And you will receive a beautiful certificate and a super T-shirt and your name and photo will be posted on our website. So please call the sanctuary at 593-2933; you can also register via the website www.arubandon-key.org or donate money on bank account number 40.03.025 at the Aruba Bank! Just do it! Would you like to follow the donkeys on Facebook: surf to Donkey Sanctu-

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Monica Kock motivates Final exams students of Colegio Arubano to face the "final stretch" with determination!



ORANJESTAD -- Some months ago, Colegio Arubano set the goal of raising the graduation percentage of the secondary school. The school wants to see 80% of their students of the HAVO and 85% of the VWO, receive their diplomas this academic year.

To keep the students motivated and focused on their future, Colegio Arubano has offered the senior class a session by 'motivational speaker, Lawyer Monica Kock, who presented the topic "Failing forward for success." This past week, with just 24 days

before the final tests, the school invited students for a second session with Monica Kock,..."I can do it."

They held a survey following the first session and 60% of the students expressed that they benefitted from the presentation. The experience, the interaction, the manner of presentation, and especially the attitude motivation manner which helped the students to form their thoughts and views on living were achieved through the "I Can Do It" session.

Monica Kock is a certified leadership facilitator who does a lot of investigation and adapts her presentations to the character of the audience. This results in sessions with a great deal of audiovisual (video) presentations combined with experiences and useful tips that capture and keep the attention of the young people and helps to keep the information in their minds for a long time.

In a pleasant atmosphere filled with enthusiasm, Kock motivated the young people to not let anything limit their reach to their goals and



dreams. "What do you want?" Why do you want it?" and "How much do you want it?" were key questions she asked the young people to contemplate and apply. She emphasized that it is the mind that determines everything

and motivated the young people to train, focus and to never give up. Everything impossible is possible, she repeated continually during her presentation.

Kock explained that this session was to motivate the

students to not "give up," but to now more than ever put their efforts in their future, their goals and all the doors that their diploma will open, as well as the realization of their dreams.

One of the details she stressed is to not let the past determine the present and the future and with this she asked the students who get a chance to do a retest, please take advantage of this! This way you can fix what did not go well in the first try. "Your Past is a lesson to learn from and Move on!"

Monica Kock concluded the session with some classic tips, yet important tips: study every day, focus, eat well, sleep well, be on time always and expect challenges.

Aruba's Weather Update

WEATHER: MOSTLY SUNNY AND GENERALLY DRY AND NO SIGNIFICANT RAINFALL IS EXPECTED.

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE 30 CENTIGRADE / MINIMUM TEM-PERATURE 26 CENTIGRADE

SUNRISE 07:00 AM SUNSET 06:48 PM.

WIND: FRESH TO STRONG WINDS DIRECTION EAST AVER-AGE 19 KTS GUSTING UP TO 29 KTS.

GENERAL SITUATION: A SURFACE HIGH PRESSURE AREA OVER THE ATLANTIC OCEAN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR FRESH TO STRONG WINDS. THIS SYSTEM IS GRADUALLY LOOSING FORCE. AN UPPER LEVEL DISTURBANCE OVER THE ATLANTIC IS DESTABILIZING THE ATMOSPHERE IN THE SOUTH AND CENTRAL CARIBBEAN.

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Dozens dead on Ukraine's deadliest day Cont. from pg 1

But the White House said bluntly that it was "outraged by the images of Ukrainian security forces firing automatic weapons on their own people".

Volunteer medics who made a makeshift morgue out of a popular hotel overlooking the square also accused police of killing demonstrators with live rounds.

"They were shot in the head or in the heart by live bullets, not by rubber ones," said first aid worker Natalia.

Ukraine's interior ministry said only that it reserved the right to use live munitions "in self-defence".

- 'No deal yet' -

Events on the ground gave an apparent impetus to political discussion with some hope that Ukraine's leaders were about to concede ground on the key political issue of early elections

"Among other things it was agreed with Yanukovych that there was a willingness to hold early elections this year - "both presidential and parliamentary" -- Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk told reporters after a meeting with the Ukrainian leader in between Kiev that included Warsaw top diplomat and the foreign ministers of Germany and France.

But Ukrainian opposition leader Vitali Klitschko quickly cautioned after his own subsequent meeting with the same EU troika that there was "no deal yet".

And Tusk himself suggested that the violence seems to have spiralled too far for the shell-shocked country to be satisfied with a simply a move of election a few months ahead of their expected March 2015.

"The only way (the violence) can end is with the physical destruction of the president," a protester from the predominantly pro-EU western Ukraine named Bogdan said shortly after Thursday's most brutal violence subsided.

- EU sanctions -

The shocking scale of bloodshed in a strategic nation that serves as a brittle diplomatic bridge between Russia and the West prompted EU officials to follow their US counterparts and slap travel bans against Ukrainians responsible for ordering the use of force.

Italian Foreign Minister Emma Bonino said an agreement was also reached at an emergency EU meeting in Brussels to impose asset freezes on those with "blood on their hands".

The measures mark a Uturn for Brussels diplomats who until Monday had resisted Ukrainian opposition demands for sanctions.

The United States has already put 20 top Ukrainian officials on a visa blacklist.

"Helping to stop the violence is the immediate priority," British Foreign Secretary William Hague said in Brussels.

iran sticking to nuclear freeze: UN watchdog

VIENNA (AFP) - Iran is sticking to a six-month nuclear freeze agreed under a November interim deal with world powers, the UN atomic agency said in new report Thursday, a month after the agreement came into force.

The International Atomic Energy Agency update said that uranium enrichment to medium levels -- the main concern to the international community -- "is no longer taking place", as agreed in the deal.

The IAEA also said that a proportion of Iran's medium-enriched uranium stockpile, as set out in the November deal, which took effect on January 20, "is being downblended and the remainder is being converted to uranium oxide". Enrichment to low purities however "continues at a rate of production similar to that

of production similar to that indicated" in the last report from November, meaning that its stockpile of this material rose in the last three months.

This is consistent with the agreement with world powers, as long as by the end of the six-month period on July 20 the stockpile is not higher than at the start.

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Students urge peaceful Venezuela... Cont from pg 1

Opposition leader Henrique Capriles, who has kept a low profile during the protests, on Thursday challenged Maduro to prove his claims that the demonstrations were part of a conspiracy to overthrow his government.

"Is this a coup or an autocoup?" he asked. "The only one who has talked about a coup d'etat has been government. It is a fabrication by government actors," he said.

Prominent opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez, who has helped spearhead the protests, is meanwhile being held at a military jail, where his lawyers say he could remain for up to 45 days awaiting trial.

Lopez, a 42-year-old Harvard-educated economist, has been charged with instigating violence, property damage and criminal association -- but not murder, as Maduro had threatened.

- White flowers -

The student federations that have organized the protests across the country on Thursday called on "Venezuelan civil society to respond to the violence with white flowers."

The students also convened a rally, with flowers, in Las Mercedes, an upscale Caracas neighborhood of embassies, trendy restaurants and luxury condominiums.

The government meanwhile ordered a battalion of paratroopers to the border city of San Cristobal, where the student protests began on February 4, in response to what he said were reports of Colombians crossing "to carry out paramilitary missions."

In a televised news conference, he said a "de facto curfew" already was in place on the border, and he suggested that former Colombian president Alvaro Uribe was behind the border activity.

The archbishop of Caracas appealed to the government to rein in "armed groups" who he said were "acting freely, with impunity."

"How is it possible that there could be eight or nine wounded in Valencia and a girl dead in the vilest manner simply because an armed group attacked a peaceful protest," Cardinal Jorge Urosa Savino said.

He was referring to the latest fatality, a 21-year-old beauty queen who was shot in the head Tuesday at a protest rally in the northern city of Valencia.

Florida man, 101, runs for Congress

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A
Florida great-great grandfather has launched a campaign
to run for the US Congress in
November, running on a
record of 101 years of life experience.

In a bid to become the world's oldest freshman, Joe Newman announced on his website joenewman 101 com that he will present his candidacy to the House of Representatives for the first time on a promise that "all citizens be heard."

He is 76 years older than the minimum age of 25 required to serve in Congress.

"At 101, my 'fruit of experience' far surpasses everyone else in this congressional race," Newman wrote on his

He said his long-shot bid aims to "inspire citizens of all ages and walks of life to get involved, get engaged and to become active patriot leaders."

Presenting himself as an "anthropological progressive," the son of 20th century Russian immigrants as a write-in candidate against Republican Representative Vern Buchanan.

A win would make Newman the oldest currently serving member of Congress by at least a decade, ahead of Ralph Hall, 90.

He told local ABC television affiliate WWSB that his platform includes increasing the minimum wage and guaranteeing health care for all

"A vote for the old man is a vote for the New Man!" he wrote on Twitter.

The entire House of Representatives and a third of the Senate seats are up for grabs in November's mid-term elections.

Kerry holds new Paris talks with Abbas

PARIS (AFP) - US Secretary of State John Kerry met with Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas in Paris on Thursday for their second round of talks in two days. The two men met for two hours with their teams in an upscale Parisian hotel, where Abbas hosted Kerry for dinner and late night talks on Wednesday, US officials said.

The top US diplomat has spent months trying to get the Israelis and the Palestinians to agree on a framework for resolving their conflict, but the negotiations have shown little sign of progress, with each side blaming the other.

There was no immediate comment on how the two days of talks went, but US officials have insisted they are making progress despite the tough issues to be resolved.



Flu hits young, middle aged people hard this year

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The flu is hitting young and middle aged people in the United States particularly hard this season, as a tough flu strain remerged and too few people were vaccinated, health authorities said Thursday.

More than 60 percent of all severe flu cases this season in the United States were in people 18-64 years old -- or about double the usual rate, they said.

Typically, people at risk for flu complications include pregnant women, the elderly, children and people with compromised immune systems.

The main flu circulating this season is H1N1, otherwise known as the "swine flu" that caused a pandemic four years ago.

"It is back this year, and it is hitting younger people hard," said Centers for Disease Control and Prevention chief Tom Frieden.

"One of the reasons," he said, "is that the vaccination rate for young adults, 18-64, is too low."

Only a third of all people in that age group were vaccinated as of November, compared to nearly two-thirds of children and elderly people, he said.

"That is one of the reasons we are seeing a much higher proportion of hospitalizations and death among 18-64 year olds than we generally see."

People with underlying health conditions such as obesity, asthma, lung disease and diabetes are particularly vulnerable to dangerous bouts of the flu, leading to pneumonia and possibly death.

Although experts do not have a tally of US deaths yet this season, early indications suggest that there have been more deaths than normal in the 18-64 age group.

Over the previous three flu seasons, people age 18-64 represented only about 35 percent of all flu hospitalizations.

Last year the predominant flu type was H3N2, which accounted for fewer hospitalizations among middle aged people.

Getting vaccinated lowered the risk of having to see a doctor by about 60 percent for people of all ages, the CDC added.

"Vaccination is the single most important thing you can do to protect yourself against the flu," Frieden said.

The flu is expected to continue to make people sick for the next several weeks across the United States.

The CDC recommends that all people over the age of six months get a flu vaccine each year.



Facebook mega-deal seen as brilliant strategic move

WASHINGTON (AFP) Facebook's deal for the red-hot
mobile messaging service
WhatsApp is a savvy strategic
move for the world's biggest
social network, even if the
price tag is staggeringly high,
analysts say.

The deal unveiled Wednesday worth up to \$19 billion -seen as the largest for a venture-backed tech startup -gives Facebook entry into
emerging markets and importantly keeps the app out of the
hands of rivals like Google.

"Although the deal appears to be pricey... we think that it has compelling strategic logic," Shebly Seyrafi at FBN Securities said in a research note Thursday.

While Facebook is paying a high price by any measure, Seyrafi said "we see other benefits to the deal," pointing out WhatsApp's big user base in countries such as Brazil, South Africa and China.

"We think that in addition to the revenue obtainable from WhatsApp itself, Facebook will benefit from better integration... that will make Facebook more engaging while driving further growth internationally and in mobile," the analyst said.

Facebook shares dipped 2.2 percent in early trade Thursday



to \$66.54, which appeared modest in view of the fact that the company is diluting its value with the massive cashand-stock acquisition.

The purchase includes \$12 billion in Facebook shares and \$4 billion cash. It calls for an additional \$3 billion in restricted stock units to be granted to WhatsApp founders and employees that will vest over four years.

Trip Chowdhry at Global Equities Research called the move a "very smart and an essential acquisition for Facebook," because WhatsApp works on less expensive "feature phones" still predominant in emerging economies such as India.

"Most of the developing world still is on the feature phone, as the majority cannot afford a smartphone," Chowdhry said.

"Whats App is the only application that runs equally well on feature phones and on smartphones."

Deutsche Bank analyst Ross Sandler said Facebook's acquisition of Whats App "solidifies its position as the top company in mobile globally" excluding China.

Sandler said that even though Facebook is not planning to deliver ads on WhatsApp for now, this may change over time.

Victor Anthony at Topeka Capital Markets said the deal will help diversify Facebook with a broader set of mobile services.

"As was the case with Pay-Pal, YouTube and Instagram, hindsight will be the best judge of how valuable this acquisition will be," Anthony said in a research note.

"The valuation appears reasonable on a per user basis. From what we see, the acquisition makes strategic sense and the combined company will likely accelerate user growth of both platforms, similar to what we see with Instagram."

Jack Kent at IHS Technology said the deal helps Facebook "neutralize a competitive threat."

"To understand Facebook's rationale, the focus must be on the cost of Facebook not buying WhatsApp rather than the price Facebook paid for WhatsApp," Kent said.

"Facebook could not risk WhatsApp's 450 million monthly and 315 million daily active users falling into the hands of a competitor, such as Google."

Fellow IHS analyst Eleni Marouli said the deal allows Facebook to get better data on users worldwide, which has value.

Youssef Squali at Cantor Fitzgerald pointed out that Facebook may be able to use WhatsApp to create a new kind of telecom service which has not existed so far.



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Lots of sitting is dangerous for older adults: study

WASHINGTON (AFP) Spending too much time sitting may be particularly dangerous for people over 60,
regardless of how much they
exercise, according to a US
study out Wednesday.

The odds of being disabled doubled for each additional hour of sedentary time in seniors, said the research in the Journal of Physical Activity & Health.

For instance, "if there are two 65-year-old women, one sedentary for 12 hours a day and another sedentary for 13 hours a day, the second one is 50 percent more likely to be disabled," explained a statement from the research team at Northwestern University.

Disability was defined as being limited in basic activities such as eating, dressing, bathing, getting in and out of bed and walking across a room.

The study was based on a sample of 2,286 adults aged

60 and older from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

Because it only observed the participants at one moment in time, the could not conclusively show whether the sedentary behavior actually caused the disability.

Lead researcher Dorothy Dunlop, professor of medicine at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, has a long-term study underway to look and cause and effect.

She said she was surprised to see that being sedentary was almost as strongly correlated with disability as was the lack of moderate vigorous activity, such as walking.

"It means older adults need to reduce the amount of time they spend sitting, whether in front of the TV or at the computer, regardless of their participation in moderate or vigorous activity," she said.

'Living drug' kills leukemia in 88 percent of patients

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A new approach to killing cancer cells that uses a patient's own inmune system has beaten back leukemia in 88 percent of adults, US researchers said.

The report by scientists in New York offers more good news for the burgeoning field of cancer immunotherapy, which uses what some describe as a "living drug" that was hailed by Science magazine as the breakthrough of 2013.

The latest trial, published in the journal Science Translational Medicine, involved 16 people with a kind of blood cancer known as adult B cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL).

Some 1,400 people die of ALL in the United States each

year, and while it is among the most treatable cancers, patients often become resistant to chemotherapy and eventually

For this study, 14 of 16 adult patients achieved complete remission after their T cells were genetically engineered so that they could focus on eradicating cancer.

The process involves removing some of the patient's T-cells and altering them with a gene to make them recognize a protein, known as CD19, on the cancer cells, so that they can attack them.

Left to their own devices, T cells can attack other harmful invaders in the body but will allow cancer to grow uninterrupted.

After 15 years of work on

the technology, known as tumor-targeted chimeric antigen receptor-modified T cells, "it seems to really work in patients with this particular type of cancer," Brentjens told AFP.

Last year, his team reported the first promising results in five adult patients who achieved remission after the therapy.

He estimated that between 60 and 80 people in the United States have since entered experimental trials of the new treatment, which is also being studied in Europe.

In December 2013, experts from multiple US centers where trials are ongoing presented their findings at the American Society of Hematology (ASH) annual meeting, including the University of Pennsylvania, which is also studying the approach in adults with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL).

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia is enrolling pediatric patients in trials of T-cell therapy.

Efforts are also ongoing to identify cancer-specific receptor cells that could allow the technique to tackle other types of tumors.

In the meantime, the therapy remains expensive, costing around \$100,000 per patient, a price tag experts believe will come down once phannaceutical companies get more involved and the technique becomes more widespread.

Fewer than 1 in 5 English adults now smoke: study

PARIS (AFP) - Fewer than one in five adults in England now smoke, the smallest fraction in three generations, the British Medical Journal (BMJ) reported.

In a letter, health researchers Jamie Brown and Robert West of University College London reported on a seven-year-old programme to monitor smoking prevalence in England.

It samples 1,800 people aged over 16 who are randomly chosen each month.

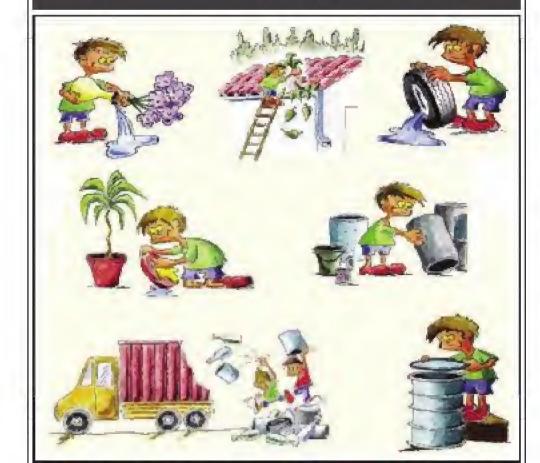
In 2013, 19.3 percent of those questioned said they smoked.

"For the first time in probably 80 years, smoking prevalence in England has fallen below 20 percent," the letter said.

Smoking in England was rare at the start of the 20th century and reached a peak in the early 1960s, when more than 70 percent of men and 40 percent of women smoked.

Brown and West said smashing the 20 percent mark could be an important moment in rolling back tobacco.

The decline in smoking prevalence in England began in the 1970s, they said, with an annual fall of 0.6 percentage points a year on average. The retreat in 2013 was slightly higher at 0.8 percent.



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After 3 decades, Buccaneer is still an island favorite



and duck. On a daily basis the

food

chef creates specials includ-

ing a daily soup. Every

food item on the menu

is made from scratch

every day. Some

choices are the

"Barracuda Meu-

popular

-- The Buccaneer Restaurant is a legendary favorite from day one that the doors opened 35 years ago. The nautical, laid back restaurant located in-between the high and low rise hotels in Aruba. The restaurant is owned and run by Josef Munzenhofer, a local Aruban who kept many of the father's traditional recipes and added new entrees. The menu is a wide and varied menu that is focused mainly on fresh caught local seafood dishes and for the not seafood lover's, poultry, lamb, angus cut beef, pasta vegetables, Ceviche & Escargot are among the best sellers for appetizers and if you love rack of lamb with mint sauce than feast on this.

The restaurant has a welcoming, nautical feel with an extensive 18,000 gallon aquarium wall in the main dining room and smaller aquariums at the cozy booth, coastal maps, diving helmet, old fashion compass, shells and the eye stopper bar pro-

Fish

Surf & Turf

duced by the owner himself with tables to match, and so much more. Planning a

Planning a party or special event than Buccaneer is the right choice for you. Checkout the website with a video included of the legendary restaurant that stands out from all the

Early Bird from 5:30-7:00 pm, closed on Sundays. Buccaneer is known for their reasonable prices and their along with a top-notch team who have kept satisfied guests coming back.

The restaurant location

The Buccaneer kitchen is

open Monday through Sat-

urday 5:30-10:00 pm &

The restaurant location is 11C Gasparito. Making a reservation is easy just call 586-6172 . email - buccaneeraruba@yahoo.

cal Aruban who kept many the father's traditional cipes and added new enses. The menu is a wide and ainly on fresh caught local afood dishes and for the not afood lover's, poultry, mb, angus cut beef, pasta nière "with a light caper lemon sauce, "Shrimp Trio" your choice of three types of shrimp entrees, "Seduction of the sea" a medley of grilled seafood favorites served with pasta and

David Bowie urges Scotland to stay in UK ahead of referendum



LONDON (AFP) - British music legend David Bowie on Wednesday urged Scotland to remain part of the UK during an acceptance speech at the annual Brit Awards ceremony.

The reclusive 67-year-old was not at London's O2 Arena to accept his award for British Male Solo Artist, but sent an acceptance message, read out by supermodel Kate Moss, saying "Scotland, stay with us!".

The statement was quickly seized upon by pro-union supporters, with popular tabloid. The Sun running with the quote as Thursday's front-page headline.

Labour MP Jim Murphy later tweeted: "David Bowie has had his say. Now you can do your bit to back Scotland."

The glam-rock mastermind became the oldest winner of an award, surpassing Welsh crooner Tom Jones, who received an honorary prize for his outstanding contribution to music in 2003, aged 62.

Polls show increasing support for a Yes vote in September's referendum, although the No vote remains ahead.

Scotland has enjoyed increased autonomy since a 1997 referendum on devolution, and now looks after its own education, health, environment and justice.

But the UK parliament in London still decides defence and foreign policy, and the SNP wants full independence.

Pope's reform cardinals meet to overhaul Vatican

VATICAN CITY (AFP) - A council of cardinals set up by Pope Francis to advise him on Vatican reforms began its latest meeting this week to discuss how to overhaul the Catholic Church's scandal-hit bureaucracy and finances.

The closed-door talks were taking place at St Martha's, the Vatican City residence normally reserved for visiting clergymen where Francis has lived since he was elected in March last year instead of the papal palace.

The council will hear a report from a new committee of experts set up by the pope to reform the Vatican bank, formally known as the Institute for Religious Works, or under its Italian acronym IOR.

On Wednesday, the council -- dubbed the "G8" -- discussed "organisational and economic programmes of the Holy See", Vatican spokesman Federico Lombardi said.

Among the items on the agenda the streamlining of the administration of the Church by merging different pontifical councils and the creation of a new "ministry" dealing with lay issues, the i Media news agency specialising in Vatican affairs reported.

I.Media said the planned reforms have generated "palpable tension" in the Roman Curia, the central administration of the Church, which includes some 20 dicasteries (departments) and employs around 2,000 people.

The council of cardinals, which held its first meeting in October, is made up of eight senior clerics from Australia, Chile, Democratic Republic of

Congo, Germany, Honduras, India, Italy and the United States.

The pope's busy week continues on Thursday and Friday with a meeting of cardinals from around the world -- known as a consistory -- to discuss family issues.

Then on Saturday, Francis will formally appoint 19 new cardinals -- the first of his pontificate.

Bulgaria bishop stripped of job after taking part in orgy

SOFIA (AFP) - A senior bishop from the Bulgarian Orthodox Church was dismissed Thursday after an online video emerged of him at an orgy with four women. Bishop Boris, who headed the second-largest monastery in the country, Batchkovo, was relieved of his duties after being found guilty of acts "unworthy of his post", said a statement from the Holy Synod, the Church's supreme clerical body. It followed allegations that emerged on Thursday in the daily Trud, which reported on a video clip of the bishop with the four women. The orgy is just the latest scandal to hit the church, which counts 80 percent of all Bulgarians as followers. On the opening of government archives in January 2012, it was revealed that 11 members of the Holy Synod had been agents of, or had collaborated with, the former communist regime. One of those was the hugely controversial bishop Kiril. Well-known for driving an American luxury car around his seaside diocese of Varna, his body was found on a Black Sea beach last summer, though foul play was later ruled out.



Solitary confinement ravages the mind, but use widespread

CHICAGO (AFP) - Robert King sat, slept and ate every meal alone in a cramped cell at Louisiana's notorious Angola prison for 29 long and lonely years.

His eyesight failed from lack of stimulation, but King insists his resolve to fight the injustice of solitary confinement never did.

The Black Panther movement member said he managed to stay same through the strength of his political convictions.

Many of the more than 80,000 prisoners currently held in solitary confinement in US prisons -- and countless more around the world -- are not as fortunate.

The human mind is not built for the sensory and social isolation of solitary confinement, researchers said Friday at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Chicago.

Depriving someone of visual stimulation, human interaction, sunlight or physical activity can change their brain structure in a matter of days -let alone decades -- said University of Michigan neuroscientist Huda Akıl.

Depriving people of these important stimulants can be toxic, she said, adding that "a lot of structures in the brain actually shrink."

Plenty of prisoners who entered solitary without mental ailments end up developing them as a result of the severe conditions.

Anxiety, depression and difficulties with impulse control



are common. As are social phobias. The loneliness spurs some people to start hearing voices.

"So much of who we are depends on social contact," Haney said. "When you remove people from that social contact, they lose their sense of self."

A major psychological expenment was carned out in the 19th century when hundreds of thousands of prisoners were subjected to solitary confine-

The hope was that the isolation would rehabilitate prisoners by getting them to turn their thoughts inward and meet God. It soon became apparent that it actually drove many of them mad.

The reason it is still so widely used is because it is seen as the easiest way to protect guards from violent pris-

Corrections officials in the United States were fully aware of the harm that solitary confinement causes to individual prisoners when it became embraced on a wider scale beginning in the late 1970s, Haney

King, who managed to win

his freedom in 2001 after his conviction for a prison murder

was overturned, continues to

fight to free two other men

known as the "Angola Three" who are approaching their fourth decade in solitary.

"The psychological impact, it extends to this day," King told reporters.

But while he was crippled by the experience to the point where he still gets lost within a block or two of his home, King said he never cracked.

"I said in my mind that even though I was in prison, I was not going to let prison get to me," King said.

"We spent our time fighting with the system in order to affect change."

University of Maryland breach hits 300,000 people



WASHINGTON (AFP) - A "sophisticated computer security attack" at the University of Maryland exposed personal data from more than 300,000 students, faculty and staff, the college president said. Loh said the breached database "contained 309,079 records of faculty, staff, students and affiliated personnel from the College Park and Shady Grove campuses who have been issued a University ID since 1998." The records included names, social security numbers, dates of birth, and University identification number. The breach comes amid heightened security fears after US retail giant Target said hackers had stolen data affecting as many as 110 million customers.

Science, religion go hand-inhand in US: study

CHICAGO (AFP) - Science and religion can mix easily in the United States, a relatively religious country, a survey released Sunday found.

The study by Rice University, in Texas, polled more than 10,000 Americans, including scientists and evangelical Protestants.

"We found that nearly 50 percent of evangelical (Christians) believe that science and religion can work together and support one another," sociologist Elaine Howard Ecklund said.

Ecklund presented the results at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) annual meeting in Chicago. The United States is highly diverse, but also majority Christian.

"That's in contrast to the fact that only 38 percent of Americans feel that science and religion work collaboration," Ecklund explained.

The survey found that 27 percent of Americans believe that science and religion are at odds, and that among those who feel that way, 52 percent side with religion.

The Rice study found that scientists and the population at large are similarly active in their religious lives

It found 18 percent of scientists attended weekly religious services, compared with 20 percent of the general population. The poll also showed 15 percent of scientists see themselves as very religious, versus 19 percent of the general pop-

Meanwhile, 13.5 percent of scientists read religious texts weekly, compared with 17 percent of the US population. Nineteen percent pray several times a day, versus 26 percent of the population as a whole.

In addition, almost 36 percent of scientists said they had no doubt about God's exis-

"Most of what you see in the news are stories about these two groups at odds over the controversial issues, like teaching creationism in the schools," Ecklund said. So this is a hopeful message for science policymakers and educators, because the two groups don't have to approach religion with an attitude of combat," Ecklund said.



Dollar gains as eurozone activity slows

NEW YORK (AFP) - The US dollar picked up strength against the euro Thursday after a key measure of eurozone business activity weakened slightly.

Around 2300 GMT, the dollar was at \$1.3718, compared to \$1.3733 late Wednesday.

The dollar was flat against the yen at 102.33 yen, while the euro slipped to 140.37 yen from 140.50 yen.

The dollar also gained on the British pound, with the pound falling to \$1.6653 from \$1.6680.

The dollar was helped by Wednesday's news that Federal Reserve policymakers had last month discussed -- but ultimately rejected -- an early rise to the Fed's benchmark interest rate

In addition, the Markit Economics eurozone purchasing managers index for February fell to 52.7 points from 52.9 in January, against expectations of a slight increase.

Markit's services PMI edged up to 51.7 points in February from 51.6 in January while the manufacturing PMI dropped sharply to 53 from 54.

"A dip in the eurozone PMI

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

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provides a reminder that the region's recovery continues to be uneven and fragile," chief Markit Economist Chris Williamson said.

Williamson noted that growth "continued to be led by Germany, which contrasts with a worrying renewed downtum in France," despite a better export performance.

KLM earned over 100m eurolast year

THE HAGUE - Dutch airline KLM earned €100m from charging customers extra fees to take suitcases or for more leg room, chief executive Camiel Eurlings said on Thursday.

Speaking after the publication of Air France-KLM's 2013 results, Eurlings said people are getting used to paying more to take a suitcase with them.

'At some airlines it is standard but with us it only applies to the cheapest tickets,' Eurlings is quoted as saying by news agency ANP.

Psychology also plays an important role and people are more likely to spend extra cash on more comfort when they are going on holiday, he said.

'There are all sorts of opportunities to offer passengers extra products,' he said. 'We earned €60m on the more spacious economy seats last year. In total, these forms of extra income amounted to well over €100m.'

Work resumed Thursday on widening of Panama Canal: official



PANAMA CITY (AFP) -Work to widen the Panama Canal resumed on Thursday, an official said, two weeks after the huge project was suspended over \$1.6 billion in cost overruns

Canal administrator Jorge Quijano told AFP that the consortium involved, Grupo Unidos por el Canal (GUPC), will "resume tomorrow morning as we develop an interim agreement."

Work to expand the canal was suspended earlier this month by the GUPC consortium made up of construction

companies Sacyr of Spain, Italy's Salini-Impreglio, Belgium's Jan de Nul and Constructora Urbana of Panama

The dispute is over \$1.6 billion in cost overruns in the project, the main part of which is to equip the canal with a third set of locks.

GUPC wants Panama to add that sum to the initial contract fee of \$3.2 billion.

The century-old waterway handles five percent of global seaborne trade.

GUPC claims unforeseen geological difficulties have forced them to spend much more on cement than expected. They say that they based their estimates on data provided by the Canal Authority that were incorrect.

The canal expansion is one of the world's most ambitious civil engineering projects and was due to be completed this year in time for the 100th anniversary of the fabled canal.

The original canal, built by the United States, mostly with workers brought in from the Caribbean, was opened in 1914.

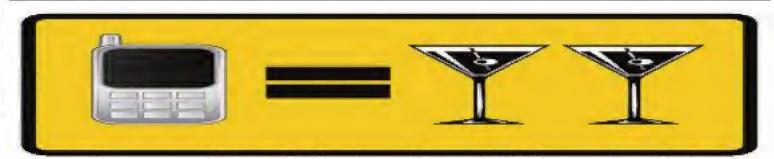
Following the delay, the deadline for completing the work is now December 2015.

Google unveils 'Project Tango' 3D smartphone platform

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) Google announced a new research project Thursday
aimed at bringing 3D technology to smartphones, for potential applications such as
indoor mapping, gaming and
helping blind people navigate. The California tech
giant said its "Project Tango"
would provide prototypes of
its new smartphone to outside developers to encourage the writing of new



applications. Project leader Johnny Lee said the goal of the project, which incorporates robotics and vision-processing technology, is "to give mobile devices a human-scale understanding of space and motion." Smartphones are equipped with sensors which make over 1.4 million measurements per second, updating the positon and rotation of the phone. Partners in the project include researchers from the University of Minnesota, George Washington University, German tech firm Bosch and the Open Source Robotics Foundation, among others. Another partner is California-based Movidius, which makes vision-processor technology for mobile and portable devices and will provide the processor platform.



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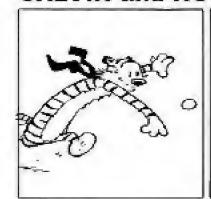
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CALVIN and HOBBES









CROSSWORD



55. ___ buds

56. "Leaving ____

Vegas"

DOWN

2. Greek letter

Controversial

"JAG" spin-off

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Forest animal

9. Evading army

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8. Dispatches

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6. Belle's

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CROSSWORD

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- Confusion
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- 14. Ashen
- 15. ___ Elton John 16. Bathroom
- fixtures Dedicated poem
- 18. Duty
- 20. Fitzgerald and others
- 22. Borden animal
- 24. Cher's former partner Sonny 26. ___ table
- 27. Bestowed
- 31. Sick
- 32. Submarine

- sandwiches 34. Brewery
- product 35. Waterfall
- 37. Largest continent
- 38. Aniston's ex
- 39. Tailor
- 40. Representative of the church
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- 45. Ice units
- 48. Abbr. on a website
- 51. Red Rose product
- 52. What a regular orders
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 - 22. "Spartacus," e.g.
 - 23. Singer Falana
 - 24. Round cap 25. "Sail ___ Ship
 - 28. Extravagant
 - 30. Precious
 - 33. New York time (abbr.)
 - 36. Number-(abbr.)

 - 40. Large tanks
 - 41. "The World As ___ It" (2 wds.)
 - 42. Actor-Jackie

 - 46. Neighbor of
 - 49. Neal ___ pin (2
- 19. Zero bathroom

see our website: ingnewsaruba.com

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- Vegetable fuel
- Can.
- 47. Urban
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- 50. Gridiron VIPs

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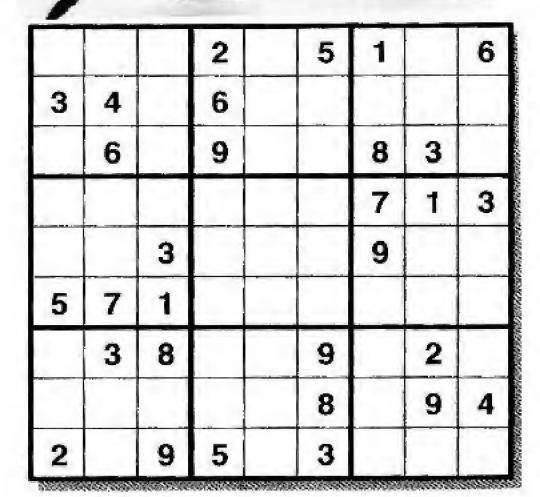
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Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

Hoffman leaves money to long-time girlfriend

NEW YORK (AFP) - Actor Philip Seymour Hoffman, who died this month from an apparent heroin overdose, left all his money to his long-time girlfriend and their young son, US media said Wednes-

Under the terms of the will, drawn up a decade ago before the couple's two daughters were born, Hoffman left his estate to Mimi O'Donnell -from whom he had recently separated -- and set up a trust fund for Cooper.

He stipulated that his son be raised in New York, Chicago or San Francisco, or visit at least twice a year to be exposed to the "culture, arts and architecture" on offer.

Cooper, 10, is to inhent half his trust fund when he turns 25 and the rest when he is 30 years old, US media said.

O'Donnell lives with Cooper, and daughters Tallulah, 7 and Willa, 5, in Manhat-West Village tan's neighborhood.

The Oscar-winning actor was found dead in his rented apartment on February 2.

O'Donnell had raised the



alarm after Hoffman failed to turn up as planned to see the children. The couple had recently split up, reportedly because of his drug use.

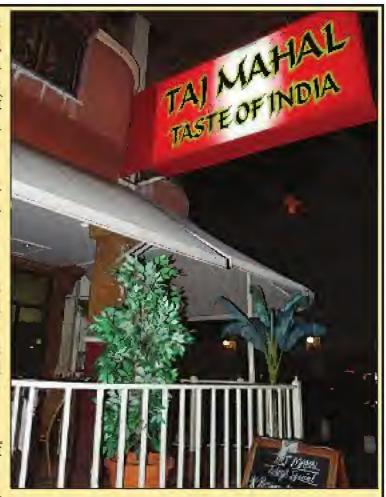
The 46-year-old Hoffman was hailed by many as the finest character actor of his generation.

He won an Oscar in 2006 for his portrayal of author Truman Capote in "Capote" and earned three further Academy Award nominations as best supporting actor in 2008, 2009 and 2013.

TAJ MAHAL; Taste of INDIA - If you like your Indian food authentic, or are looking for a new and unique dining experience, an evening at Taj Mahal will deliver a memorable meal. A seemingly endless menu offers scores of choices for fish, chicken, lamb and vegetarian dishes that are "the real deal;" discover that Indian food goes way beyond curry!

Taj Mahal's Tai Choice is a great way to start the meal and be initiated into the joys of Indian cuisine, offering a diverse selection of traditional favorites. It contains hearty portions of Pakoras, crispy vegetarian fritters, Alon Tikki, potato cutlets, Chicken Tikka, tender chicken breast pieces seasoned just right, and shaped and seasoned ground lamb, charmingly dubbed "Sheik Kebabs." All is served on a bed of sliced onions and brought to your table on a sizzling platter, and you will want to dish those sauteed onions on to one of their tasty Indian breads called Naan, leaving behind not a single crumb.

Main dishes are accompanied by a choice of rice, mixed vegetables rich with garlic, or Naan, plain, buttered, onion or garlic, and you will want



to order an extra basket or two of this tasty delight, on which you can spoon your main course, as well. Poori is crispy fried naan, and most definitely worth the extra two dollars to sample with your meal. Located behind the Royal Plaza Mall, Taj Mahal offers a dining experience that is truly out of the ordinary, they feature an excellent and tasty selection for vegetarians too. If you are a fan of Indian food, or have been toying with trying it, Taj Mahal is the place for a very affordable dining experience and the real deal!

Call 588-4494 for reservations.

40 lashes for Sudan man over rare sex video: lawyer

KHARTOUM (AFP) - A Su- cial media showed sex acts and danese man whose video of others having sex with a pregnant Ethiopian teenager created a rare case of Internet controversy in the conservative nation was sentenced to 40 lashes Thursday, a lawyer said.

The woman, who activists say was gang-raped, received a one-month jail term for "indecent activity", said one of her lawyers, Samia al-Hashmi.

"But the sentence was suspended because she is pregnant," Hashmi told AFP

The woman was also fined 5,000 pounds (\$625).

Hashmi said three men who admitted to having sex with the woman were sentenced to 100 lashes while another man who filmed the acts received the 40-lash penalty for distributing indecent material.

"He was also fined 10,000 pounds and if he doesn't pay he will be jailed for six months," the lawyer said, adding two other men were acquitted after the trial in Khartoum.

The video published on so-

some of the men laughing.

Despite the popularity of mobile messaging service WhatsApp in Sudan, this was a rare case of such a crime being publicly flaunted in the conservative nation, where women risk flogging for leaving their hair uncovered under morality laws which took effect after the 1989 Islamistbacked coup by President Omar al-Bashir.

The Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa (SIHA Network), a regional of women's association groups, said the 18-year-old pregnant woman was lured to an empty property and attacked while house-hunting last year.

Arrests were made after publication of the video in January, SIHA Network said on its website.

Hala Elkanb, the group's regional director, said the verdict reflects the substantial challenges victims of sexual violence face in pursuing justice.

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Who's winning what at

SOCHI (AFP) - Who won what at the 2014 Winter Olympics on Thursday. MEN

Freestyle - Ski cross

Jean Frederic Chapuis led home a French clean sweep in men's ski cross. Arnaud Bovolenta took silver while Jonathan Midol finished with the bronze despite crossing the line on his backside.

The only person capable of halting a French sweep in the four-man final was Canada's Brady Leman but he fell just before the penultimate jump as he tried desperately to claw back a position from the back of the field.

It was France's first ever podium sweep at a Winter Olympics and allowed the country to celebrate its best ever medal performance at a Winter Games.

Nordic Combined - Team

Norway beat Germany by a fraction of a second in a thrilling final sprint to take gold.

The initial ski jumping phase of the two-sport discipline left Norway, Germany and Austria ahead and the three were never challenged in the decisive 4x5km cross country ski race.

Norway's Joergen Graabak and Germany's Fabian Riessle surged ahead of Austria in the final section of the last leg and Graabak just managed to hold off a fast-finishing Germany.

The triumph was the first time Norway had won the nordic combined Olympic team gold medal since Nagano 1998. It also capped a glorious Olympics for Graabak who won the large hill individual competition two days before.

WOMEN

Curling
Canada won their first
Olympic women's curling gold
since 1998 when they defeated
Sweden 6-3 in the final.

Skipped by Jennifer Jones, who took to the rink appropriately wearing golden eye shadow, Canada ended Sweden's hopes of a third successive Olympic title.

Canada also matched the achievement of compatriot Kevin Martin's men's team, who won the title in 2010 by going through the tournament undefeated.

Earlier, Britain defeated Switzerland 6-5 to take the bronze medal to ensure the country's best ever medal return (four) since the 1924 Games at Chamonix in France.

Freestyle - Halfpipe American Maddie Bowman





Russia's Adelina Sotnikova performing



Italy's Carolina Kostner performing

upset the veterans to claim freestyle skiing halfpipe gold.

The 20-year-old scored an impressive 89.00 points to edge out France's Marie Martinod into second.

error-free performances. Kim had been bidding come just the third won win back-to-back titles

Japan's Ayana Onozuka took bronze to keep world champion Virginie Faivre of Switzerland off the podium.

Bowman's victory ensured the US is still in contention to overtake Canada in the final freestyle skiing rankings at these Games with just the women's ski cross to come on today.

Figure skating - Individual

Adelina Sotnikova won Russia's first ever women's figure skating gold as defending champion Kim Yu-Na was dumped into the silver medal position.

The 17-year-old took the title ahead of South Korean superstar Kim with Italy's Carolina Kostner winning the bronze after the free skating final.

Despite an error when she two-footed a double loop in her combination jump the teenager improved her free skate score by a massive 18 points to take a third title in Sochi for hosts Russia.

Both Kim and Kostner

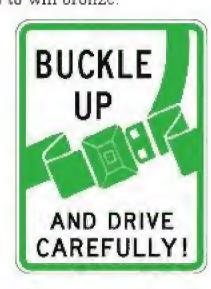
Both Kim and Kostner gave error-free performances.

Kim had been bidding to become just the third woman to win back-to-back titles after Norway's Sonja Henie, triple winner between 1928 and 1936, and Germany's Katarina Witt in 1984 and 1988.

ICE HOCKEY

Marie-Philip Poulin scored the equalizer and the game winner in overtime to lift Canada to a 3-2 win over the United States in the gold medal game of the Sochi women's hockey tournament on Thursday.

It was Canada's fourth successive Olympic women's title. Switzerland beat Sweden 4-3 to win bronze.



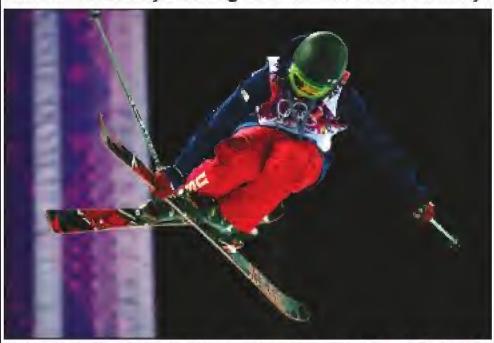
the Winter Olympics



Canada's Marie-Philip Poulin (R) scores the winning goal during the Women's Ice Hockey Gold Medal Game between Canada and USA



(From R) France's bronze medalist Jonathan Midol, France's gold medalist Jean Frederic Chapuis and France's silver medalist Arnaud Bovolenta pose during the Men's Freestyle Skiing Ski Cross Medal Ceremony.



US Angeli Vanlaanen competes in the Women's Freestyle Skiing Halfpipe finals



Canada's Jennifer Jones throws the stone in the Women's Curling Gold Medal Game Canada vs Sweden



Tennis: Serena and Jankovic have another spat

DUBAI (AFP) - World number ing, prompting Serena to hold one Serena Williams' comeback trail endured further feisty moments with Jelena Jankovic, the former world number one from Serbia, On Thursday before she reached the semi-finals of the Dubai Open.

The two have exchanged testy words on several occasions, the last time in October when Jankovic appeared to question Serena's sportsmanship at the WTA Championships in Istanbul.

Now, near the end of Serena's impressive 6-2, 6-2 win, a dispute blew up over the speed at which the rallies were conducted, an issue which has been a contention between them several times.

It happened when Jankovic appeared to slow the pauses between rallies to the speed she thought Serena had been tak-

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This caused Jankovic to walk towards Kadir Nouni, the French umpire, complaining at length, once gesturing towards Serena as she did so.

The match lasted another four points, when there was a further exchange of words between Jankovic and Serena.

Afterwards Jankovic suggested the umpire might have been at fault. "First he tells me I'm serving too fast," she said. "Then when I took my time. It was like one minute.

That dialogue apparently concluded with Williams saying: "Honestly, you got a problem?"

This time she took trouble to take the heat out of the exchanges.

"I just wanted to make sure. I don't like to have a beef with anyone. I was like, look, are we cool? Because I'm cool with you. I'm sorry if anything didn't go right."

Serena has every reason for focusing on her tennis. It was as impressive as it had been uncertain in the first set of her comeback match against, Ekaterina Makarova, an unseeded Russia, on Tuesday.

It made her a strong favounte to reach her first final in six weeks, as it earned her a meeting with unseeded Alize Cornet of France, who defeated Carla Suarez Navarro of Spain 7-5,

There could even be an all-Williams final for the first time in more than four years.

NFL: Dolphins coach vows changes after bullying mess

INDIANAPOLIS (AFP) -Miami Dolphins coach Joe Philbin vowed better workplace conditions in his team's locker room, taking responsibility Thursday for the bullying scandal that helped doom his team's NFL playoff bid.

Philbin spoke at the NFL Scouting Combine in Indianapolis only hours after the Dolphins fired offensive line coach Jim Turner and athletic trainer Kevin O'Neill.

"I am the one who is responsible for the workplace environment at the Miami Dolphins' facility," Philbin said. "We're going to have a better workplace. I promise you that. I'm going to make sure that happens."

An NFL investigation into the scandal found Miami offensive linemen Richie Incognito, John Jerry and Mike Pouncey engaged in a pattern

of harassment and intimidating behaviour directed at fellow blocker Jonathan Martin and an assistant trainer.

Martin left the team last October and Incogmito was suspended in early Novem-

Philbin said he did not know most of what was going on and had he known he "certainly would have acted on it."

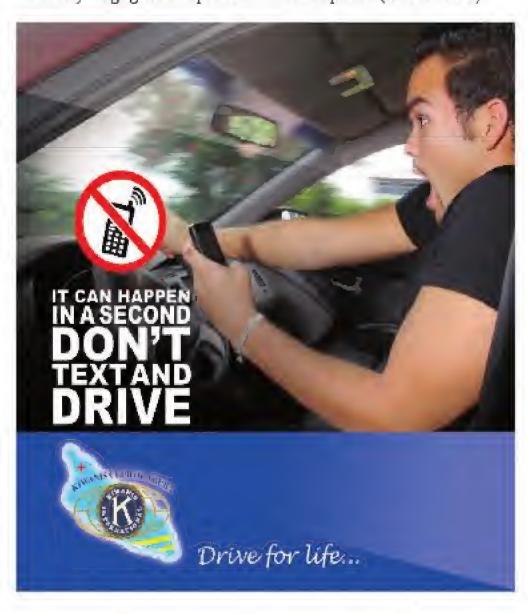
Voicemails and text messages with racist insults and threats of violence were made public as the season unfolded. The Dolphins missed the playoffs, finishing 8-8.

"Some of the facts, the behaviour, the language as outlined in the report was inappropriate and was unacceptable," Philbin said.

"I'm going to be more vigilant, more diligent, more visible, and I'm going to have a better pulse (of the team)."

Baseball: Darvish teases Tanaka then apologizes

SURPRISE (AFP) - Texas Rangers pitcher Yu Darvish joked about New York Yankees rival Masahiro Tanaka, then quickly apologized to his Japanese compatriot Tuesday to make sure everyone knew he was only kidding. The comment came when Darvish, a 27-year-old right-hander set to start his third Major League Baseball season for the Rangers, was asked about changes in the posting system for Japanese team players to sign with North American clubs. That's when Darvish touched on the seven-year deal worth \$155 million that Tanaka signed with the Yankees last month, one that eclipsed the six-year deal worth \$56 million Darvish signed with the Rangers in January of 2012. "I don't know all the details of the new posting system, but I think the Yankees gave him a little bit too much," Darvish said of Tanaka. Darvish smiled and laughed as he made the comment and when translator Kenji Nimura repeated it. But just to be certain his humorous intent was clear, Darvish released a statement later through the Rangers. "I am sorry if anyone took my comment seriously about Masahiro Tanaka at the press conference today," Darvish said. "I assumed by the reaction in the room that everyone knew I was joking." Major League Baseball have capped the amount that its clubs must pay to Japanese teams in a posting fee for top players between Darvish's jump to North America and Tanaka's move this year. The Rangers had to pay Darvish's former club, the Nippon Ham Fighters, a \$51.7 million posting fee just for the right to negotiate a deal.



Aruba Football Association has teambuilding day





ORANJESTAD - Just recently the staff of the Arubaanse Voetbal Bond (Aruba Football Association) spent an entire morning involved in different activities. The goal of the morning was to reinforce their team relations and to build a strong team bond so they can continue working hard on taking football to the next level. The team building morning was facilitated by John Mahboeb of Interpoint. Interpoint is an international Dutch organization specialized in giving training and consultancy.

Photo shows the Aruba team receiving this interesting training.

Host Brazil boosts World Cup security blanket

FLORIANOPOLIS (AFP) -Brazil has dramatically increased its World Cup security operation, drafting in tens of thousands of additional personnel as it aims to prevent the tournament being disrupted by violent protests, officials said Thursday.

Andrei Rodrigues, Brazil's national secretary for major events, told a FIFA seminar in Florianopolis that 150,000 public security personnel would be deployed for the World Cup.

Rodrigues had told reporters on February 6 that around 100,000 security personnel would be on duty during the tournament.

In addition, Rodrigues said Thursday some 20,000 private security professionals would also be used during the event.

Brazil is anxious to avoid a repeat of the scenes which rocked last year's Confederations Cup, when large scale protests over poor public services and the multi-billion-dollar cost of hosting the World Cup and 2016 Olympics dominated the headlines.

Violent protests in Rio de Janeiro earlier this month which left a television cameraman dead renewed concerns about the possibility of demonstrations at the World Cup.

FIFA director of security Ralf Mutschke indicated he was confident in Brazil's ability to host a safe tournament.

President Dilma Rousseff said Wednesday troops would be mobilized "if necessary" to ensure fan security at the June 12-July 13 World Cup.

Brazil has earmarked around \$800 million for secunity operations in an operation which will see a national command center oversee a dozen regional centers at the venues.



Aruba Taekwondo Association medalists received by President



ORANJESTAD - On Monday evening the Aruba group of athletes who were participating in the Open Canada was received back at the airport by Association President, Marilu de Veer. A group of 4 athletes under the coaching of Aruba's Theodore Rodriquez did a tremendous performance in Canada and brought back 1 gold medal, 1 silver medal and 3 bronze medals for Aruba! This was a tremendous performance putting Aruba's name high on the map and demonstrating that the Aruba's Taekwondo is on the right track. President Marilu de Veer was vey happy with the results and felt compelled to go to the airport to receive the group and to thank them for the excellent job at Montreal, Canada. At the end of this week these athletes will be travelling again. This time they head off to Las Vegas to participate in the USA Open, which is an even bigger championship. Congratulations to our Taekwondo athletes....keep up the good work guys, we're proud of you!